

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Applicants have amended claims 1, 3-7, and 9, cancelled claim 2, and have added new claim 10. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-10 are presently pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration is hereby respectfully requested.

II. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 5 and 9 have been objected to because of informalities as specified in the Office Action. Applicants respectfully contend that the objections have been overcome through appropriate amendment. Withdrawal of the objection is hereby respectfully requested.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully contend that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, have been overcome through appropriate amendment. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is hereby respectfully requested.

IV. CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lefrancois et al. Applicants have respectfully overcome this rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, now recites that "said leading side having a plurality of portions *in an axial direction*." Lefrancois et al., at most, disclose a pole side with portions (58) and (59) that extend in a *radial* direction, not *an axial direction*, as positively claimed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome, and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of such rejection.

V. CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kometani et al. Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection.

09/900,248
DP-302,682

Independent claims 1 and 9 now both recite a leading side that has a first portion extending from *said tip* sloping at a first rate, said leading side having a second portion extending *from said first portion* sloping at a second rate less than the first rate. In the Office Action, edge (27c) of Kometani et al. is being read to satisfy the recited "first portion extending from said tip" and edge (27a) in Kometani et al. is being read to satisfy the recited "second portion extending from said first portion." However, edge 27c of Kometani et al. does not extend from said tip, as recited in the claims, but rather extends from yet another intervening edge, designated (27) in Kometani, which does extend from the tip. When edge (27) (which does extend from the tip in Kometani) and edge (27c) (which does extend from edge 27) are considered, however, Applicants note that the rate of slope limitations in independent claims 1 and 9 are not satisfied (*i.e.*, edge 27c in Kometani, the "second portion," does not slope at a rate less than the first portion – edge 27 --, but rather slopes at a rate *greater than the first rate*). For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kometani et al. is no longer applicable, and further respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of such rejection.

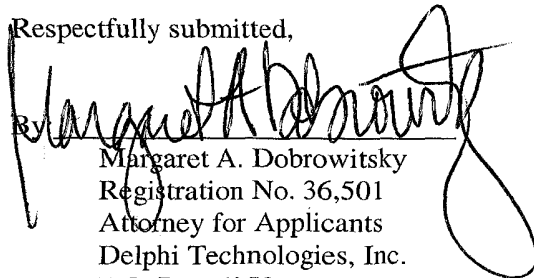
Dependent claims 3-8 and 10 (new) include the same limitations as the respective base claims 1 and 9, and therefore, for at least the same reasons as set forth above, are also now believed allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these dependent claims is also respectfully requested.

VI. CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, all presently pending claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Early notice of the same is hereby respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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DP-302,682

EXHIBIT A

MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS



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1. (Once Amended) An alternating current (AC) generator including an armature core having a plurality of teeth separated by intervening slots with a slot pitch, at least one multiphase winding disposed on said armature core, and a rotor disposed in said armature having a plurality of pairs of rotor poles and configured to rotate with a shaft, said shaft having an axis associated therewith, each pair respectively configured for energization in opposite magnetic polarity, said poles comprising a trapezoidal shape having a base, a leading side, a trailing side, and a tip side, said leading side having a plurality of portions in an axial direction, said trailing side is a straight line between the tip side and the base, wherein said leading side has a first portion extending from said tip side sloping at a first rate, said leading side having a second portion extending from said first portion sloping at a second rate less than said first rate.
3. (Once Amended) The AC generator of claim 1 [2] wherein said first portion slopes between [about] one and two slot pitches and said second portion slopes between [about] one-half and one and one-half slot pitches.
4. (Once Amended) The AC generator of claim 3 wherein said first portion slopes [about] one slot pitch, said second portion slopes about three-quarters slot pitch.
5. (Once Amended) The AC generator of claim 1 wherein said tip side is offset relative to said base, wherein said leading side [edge] has a first portion extending from said tip sloping at a first rate, said leading side having a second portion extending from said first portion sloping at a second rate less than said first rate.
6. (Once Amended) The AC generator of claim 5 wherein said first portion slopes between [about] one and two slot pitches and said second portion slopes between [about] one-half and one and one-half slot pitches.

09/900,248
DP-302,682

7. (Once Amended) The AC generator of claim 6 wherein said first portion slopes [about] one slot pitch, said second portion slopes [about] three-quarters slot pitch.

9. (Once Amended) An alternating current (AC) generator including an armature core having a plurality of teeth separated by intervening slots with a slot pitch, at least one multiphase winding disposed on said armature core, and a rotor disposed in said armature having a plurality of pairs of rotor poles and configured to rotate with a shaft, said shaft having an axis associated therewith, each pair respectively configured for energization in opposite magnetic polarity, said poles comprising a trapezoidal shape having a base, a leading side, a trailing side, and a tip side, said leading side having a plurality of portions in an axial direction, wherein said tip side is offset relative to said base, wherein said leading side side [edge] has a first portion extending from said tip sloping at a first rate, said leading side having a second portion extending from said first portion sloping at a second rate less than said first rate, said first portion slopes between [about] one and two slot pitches and said second portion slopes between [about] one-half and one and one-half slot pitches, wherein said trapezoidal shape further includes a pair of shank portions extending from said base, said trailing side is a straight line in the axial direction between said tip side and one of said shank portions extending from said base.

10. (New) The generator of claim 9 wherein said generator includes seventy-two teeth and six pairs of poles, said multiphase winding is a three-phase winding and wherein said trailing side is disposed at an incline relative to the axial extent of said teeth of said armature, said trailing side extending in parallel with said leading edge of an adjacent pole for a predetermined length.